

Public safety is the top priority

"Public safety is our highest priority," according to Evan Richert, Director of the Maine State Planning Office. "Every possible precaution will be taken to protect people and property along the Kennebec River that will be most affected by the Dam's removal." To address all potential public safety concerns, a Safety Team was formed to develop a comprehensive Public Safety Plan. The team consists of representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, the Department of Marine Resources, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Maine Emergency Management Association, the City of Augusta, the Farmingdale Harbor Master, the Maine State Planning Office, E/PRO, and H.E. Sargent. River safety concerns both up and downstream of the dam before and after the breach have been identified and safety steps will be implemented and strictly enforced to help insure the safety of the general public. The Public Safety Plan developed by the team is separated into 2 phases. The first phase is for the initial breach and the second is for the remainder of the dam removal. The Federal Energy Regulatory Agency has approved the Plan.

Public safety-breach phase 1

At exactly 9:06 am on Thursday, July 1, 1999 a portion of the west side of the Edwards Dam will be

breached to allow the water being held back by the dam to begin to be lowered to its natural level. The maximum elevation of the breach flow downstream of the Father Curran Bridge will be within the normal tidal zone. The flow from the breach will reach Hallowell within the first hour. It will build to a peak elevation of 2.8 feet above normal river flow in Hallowell within 4 hours after the breach. This will all happen during low tide to minimize increases in downstream water levels.

However, when the initial breach occurs, a large quantity of potentially dangerous fast rushing water will be suddenly let loose downstream and continue to flow for up to 24 hours.

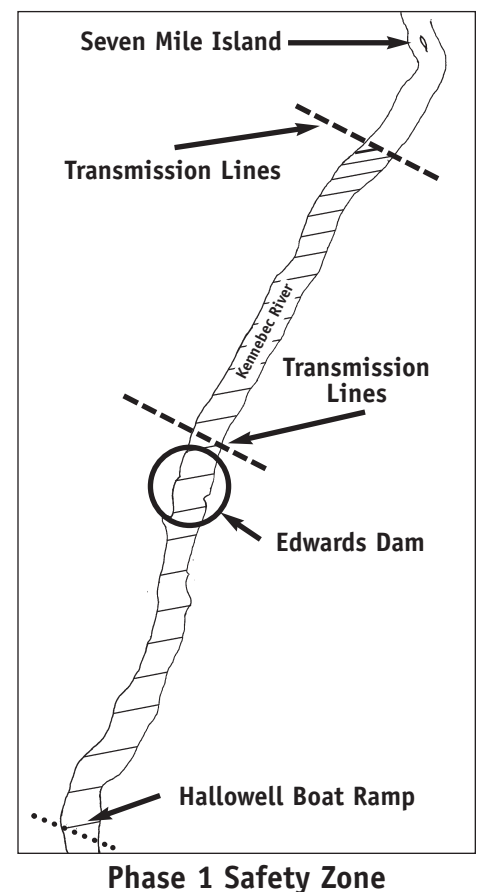
Downstream Maximum Water Rise

.5 miles,	3.5ft	Augusta
3 miles,	2.8ft	Hallowell
5 miles,	1.7ft	Farmingdale
7 miles,	1.1ft	Gardiner

To alert and protect the public regarding the potential hazards associated with the initial breach of the dam the following safety precautions and/or procedures will be implemented and must be observed.

- On July 1, 1999 from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm all boating will be prohibited upstream of the Dam to

the northern most electric transmission lines crossing the River downstream of Seven Mile Island, and downstream of the dam to the Hallowell public boat launch facility. This area will be designated a safety zone by the United States Coast Guard on the day of the breach. Violations will carry severe penalties.



- The United States Coast Guard will monitor and enforce the safety zone around the dam during the breach.
- The Maine Marine Patrol will secure the Hallowell boat launch,

patrol the river downstream of the Dam and prohibit all boat traffic north of Hallowell during the day of the breach.

- A boat barrier will be installed upstream of the Dam.
- Public notices will be published in the local newspapers.
- The Augusta Fire Department & the Emergency Management Agency will secure and set up a command post at the Augusta boat launch.
- The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will secure the Sidney boat launch, monitor and patrol the river upstream of the Dam.
- Local law enforcement agencies will provide barricades at all major access points to the river.

All planned safety precautions for the breach are scheduled to be in place no later than 6:00 am on July 1, 1999 and will remain in place until the water being discharged reaches a stable flow as determined by safety officials.

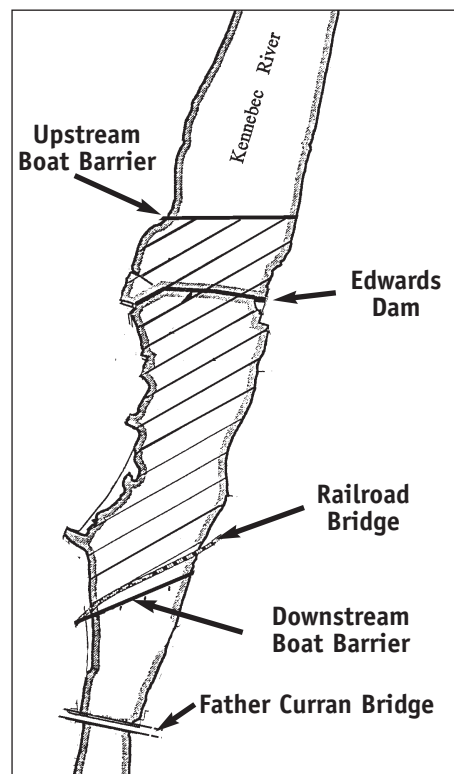
Public safety-dam removal phase 2

Protection of the public during the removal of the remainder of the Dam will focus on implementing precautionary measures closer to the Dam and will include the following:

- From the day of the breach

until the completion of the Edwards Dam demolition, scheduled for mid-November, all boating will be prohibited upstream of the Dam to the construction boom located just north of the Dam and downstream to the construction boom at the railroad bridge. This area will be designated a safety zone by the United States Coast Guard until the Dam is completely removed.

- All work areas and access routes out to the Dam will be fenced and/or barricaded with signage to warn/restrict unauthorized access.



Phase 2 Safety Zone

- The upstream boat barrier will remain in place
- A downstream boat barrier will be installed at the railroad bridge abutments.
- A boom will be installed to collect floating debris that may escape during the demolition process.

These safety precautions will remain in place until the Dam has been completely removed.

Safety-an individual responsibility

The goal of the Safety Team is to provide the information and awareness necessary to make removal of the Edwards Dam as safe as possible during the entire process. It must be absolutely clear that breaching and removing the Edwards Dam has the potential to be very dangerous or even life threatening. Therefore, it's critical that all safety procedures have to be taken very seriously and strictly followed. Also, the overall vision of the Team includes a strong emphasis on the general public taking responsibility for their own safety, caring for themselves and others and using common sense. Ultimately, safety is the responsibility of each individual